

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 4, 6-15 and 17-24 were pending in this application. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended. Claims 10-12 and 21-23 have been canceled. Claims 25-52 have been added. Hence, claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9, 13-15, 17-20 and 24-52 remain pending. Reconsideration of the subject application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4, 6, 13 15 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 5,745,553 to Mirville, *et al.* (hereinafter "Mirville"), and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 5,187,735 to Herrero Garcia, *et al.* (hereinafter "Herrero Garcia"). **Note, the Applicant assumes the Office Action intended to reference U.S. Patent No. 5,550,899 to McLeod, *et al.* (hereinafter "McLeod"). Further, the office action appears to state that claim 24 is allowable. The office action does not address claim 24 substantively in section 3 and lists claim 24 under "Allowable Subject Matter" in section 6. Thus, the Applicant has assumed claim 24 is allowed.**

Claims 2, 7-9, 11-12, 14, 18-20 and 22-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mirville [sic, McLeod], in view of Herrero Garcia, and further in view of the cited portions of U.S. Patent No. 5,937,047 to Stabler, *et al.* (hereinafter "Stabler"). **Note, the Applicant assumes claims 11-12 and 22-23 are allowable. The office action does not address claims 11, 12, 22, and 23 substantively in section 4 and lists claims 11, 12, 22, and 23 under "Allowable Subject Matter" in section 6. Thus, the Applicant has assumed claims 11, 12, 22, and 23 are allowed.**

Claims 10-12 and 21-23 (and presumably claim 24) contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 1 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 11, which the office action seems to state would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Similarly, claim 13 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 22, which the office action seems to state would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Thus, claims 1 and 13 are believed to be allowable.

Claims 2, 4 and 6-9, depend from claim 1 and are, therefore believed to be allowable, at least for the reasons stated above. Likewise, claims 14, 15 and 17-20 depend from claim 13, and are believed to be allowable, at least for the reasons stated above.

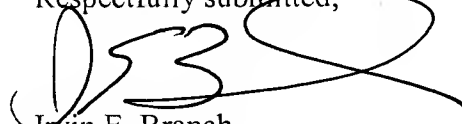
Claims 10, 12, 21, and 23 have been rewritten in independent form as claims 25, 39, 32, and 46, respectively, and are believed to be allowable, as stated in the office action. Claims 26-31 depend from claim 25, claims 33-38 depend from claim 32, claims 40-45 depend from claim 39, and claims 47-52 depend from claim 46. Thus, these claims are believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 303-571-4000.

Respectfully submitted,



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